

EDUCATION SYSTEM OF UZBEKISTAN COMPARING WITH US AND UK

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Annotation: The education system of Uzbekistan operates under the oversight of two key government ministries responsible for public and higher education, respectively. Compulsory schooling lasts from ages 6 to 15, split between primary and basic general education. Following this obligatory phase, students have the option for an additional two years of upper secondary education, which can lead to vocational training or enrollment in higher education institutions.

Keywords: Uzbekistan education system, Ministry of Public Education, Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education, compulsory schooling, primary education, basic general education, upper secondary education, vocational training, higher education, Uzbek language instruction, Russian, English as foreign languages, annual exams, state-funded institutions, Tashkent, National University of Uzbekistan, Tashkent State University of Economics, educational reforms, international partnerships, UK education system, continuous assessment, UCAS, extracurricular activities.

The educational framework in Uzbekistan is under the stewardship of the Ministry of Public Education and the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education. It is obligatory for youths from age 6 to 15 to attend school, starting with a 4-year primary educational phase succeeded by a 5-year stage of basic general education.

Subsequent to this basic educational phase, learners have the choice to advance their education through a two-year upper secondary program. Graduating from this level opens avenues to either vocational training avenues or academic pursuits in higher education establishments such as universities and tertiary colleges.

Uzbekistan boasts an array of higher education entities, including universities, institutes, and academies, which span both public and privately funded institutions. Tashkent, the nation's capital, is home to prestigious centres of learning like the National University of Uzbekistan and Tashkent State University of Economics.

In an effort to enhance the nation's educational standards, the Uzbek government has been active in reforming the education sector and investing in both infrastructural and technological advancements. This move has facilitated an uptick in global collaborations and academic partnerships with international educational institutions.

When comparing the Uzbek educational structure with that in the U.S. and U.K., several clear contrasts emerge, characterized by the following:

- The educational segmentation in Uzbekistan is distinctly divided into primary, general secondary, and higher education phases, while the U.S. incorporates an additional pre-primary level, and the U.K. integrates further education following secondary school.
- The curriculum within Uzbek schools is centrally mandated and concentrates predominantly on foundational subjects. In contrast, the U.S. curriculum is broader, embracing arts and physical education, while the U.K. offers a diversified curriculum allowing for optional subjects at higher educational levels.
- Assessment in Uzbekistan revolves around annual exams to gauge student competency, whereas in the U.K., a blend of exams, coursework, and hands-on evaluations occur throughout the academic year.
- The language of instruction in Uzbek schools is primarily Uzbek, with some schools also providing courses in Russian or English. In the U.K., English is the preeminent instructional language with options for bilingual education in certain institutions.
- In terms of higher education funding, Uzbekistan mainly relies on state support, requiring entrance exams for university entry. The U.K., however, utilizes the UCAS system for university admissions which encompasses both state-funded and independent universities.
- While Uzbekistan's educational system places less emphasis on non-academic activities, the U.K. strongly endorses extracurricular pursuits for comprehensive student development.

The Uzbek Ministry of Public Education and the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education govern the nation's educational system. Schooling is obligatory for all youngsters ages 6 to 15, beginning with 4 years of elementary instruction, followed by 5 years of lower secondary schooling.

Students may opt to pursue advanced secondary schooling, which spans an additional 2 years, after completing their basic schooling. Graduates of this level may either enter vocational training centers or advance to tertiary institutions such as universities and colleges for further education.

Uzbek higher education comprises various universities, institutes, and academies, spanning both the public and private sectors. Prestigious institutions, notably the National University of Uzbekistan and the Tashkent State University of Economics, are concentrated in the metropolis of Tashkent.

The government of Uzbekistan has recently intensified its endeavors to enhance educational standards by reforming the educational system and bolstering infrastructural and technological resources. The nation is also expanding its global educational reach through collaboration with foreign universities and educational organizations.

Comparing the education systems of Uzbekistan and the United States, notable contrasts include:

- The division of the Uzbek educational framework into primary, secondary, and tertiary levels, whereas the U.S. system also includes a pre-primary stage.

- A more centralized curriculum in Uzbekistan, with a focus on traditional academic disciplines, as opposed to the holistic, diverse American curriculum that incorporates the arts, physical health, and additional languages.
- Different grading scales, with the Uzbek system grading from 1 to 5 and the American system using percentages or alphabetical grades.
- Mandatory national examinations in Uzbekistan, contrasting with the variable state-specific standardized testing in the United States.
- The accessibility of free higher education for successful university exam passers in Uzbekistan, while U.S. students often need financial assistance to fund their tertiary education.
- More conventional instructional methods in Uzbekistan, centered on memorization in contrast to the critical, interactive pedagogies prevalent in the United States.

In conclusion, despite some similarities, the education systems of Uzbekistan and the U.S. exhibit marked disparities in organization, curriculum, grading practices, examination patterns, university funding, and instructional methodology. Furthermore, comparing the education system of Uzbekistan with that of the United Kingdom, one finds different stages of education, a broader curriculum with elective options in the UK, and varying academic pathways.

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